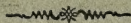


PAM.  
MISC.

Woman's American  
Baptist  
Home Mission Society.

1877-1894.



"We will continue writing, waiting and watching for any  
opportunity to do the Master's work."





# HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

## WOMAN'S AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY,

FROM

NOVEMBER 14, 1877,

TO

APRIL 30, 1894.

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*"For ye serve the Lord Christ."*

---

BOSTON:  
PRESS OF S. G. ROBINSON,  
29 Purchase Street.  
1894.

# CHARTER.

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

BE IT KNOWN that whereas Laurana B. Banvard, Myra B. Gurney, Elizzie S. McCoy, Sophia B. Packard, Delia E. J. Durant, Phœbe R. Mason, Eunice Safford, Rebecca M. Hesseltine, Esther W. Smith, H. Maria Pollard, Emily M. Upham, Mary O. Loud and Martha Q. A. Tilson have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, for the purpose of the evangelization of the women among the freed people, the Indians, the heathen immigrants and the new settlements of the West, and have complied with the provisions of the Statutes of this Commonwealth in such case made and provided, as appears from the certificate of the President, Treasurer and Executive Committee of said Corporation, duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations, and recorded in this office:—

Now, therefore, I, Henry B. Pierce, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that said L. B. Banvard, M. B. Gurney, E. S. McCoy, S. B. Packard, D. E. J. Durant, P. R. Mason, E. Safford, R. M. Hesseltine, E. W. Smith, H. M. Pollard, E. M. Upham, M. O. Loud and M. Q. A. Tilson, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as, and are hereby made, an existing corporation under the name of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, with the powers, rights and privileges and subject to the limitations, duties and restrictions which by law appertain thereto.

WITNESS my official signature hereunto subscribed, and the seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed this twentieth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight.

{ L. S. }

HENRY B. PIERCE,

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

(CHAP. 204, ACTS OF 1888.)

An act to enlarge the purposes of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows :

SECTION 1. The Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society is authorized and empowered to carry on the work of evangelizing and educating the women and children in any part of North America.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

[Approved April 9, 1888.]

# HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

## WOMAN'S AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY.

1877 — 1894.

---

BY MRS. JAMES McWHINNIE.

---

There remaineth yet very much land to be possessed.—

JOSHUA 13: 1.

As early as 1800 the women of this country were interested in Home Missions. In 1803 the first Woman's Home Missionary Society was formed at the First Church, Providence, R. I., with the name of "FEMALE MITE SOCIETY" of First Baptist Church. Its object, "To aid in sending the gospel to the wilds of western New York and Pennsylvania."

Other societies of like character followed, and for a number of years were independent of any general organization.

After the formation of the MASSACHUSETTS MISSIONARY SOCIETY, they sent their contributions into its treasury, to be used by the Board "among the frontier settlements of Vermont, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere."



#### 4 *Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society.*

Later, in 1832, the women of the churches sent their regular contributions for Home Mission work through the AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY. So helpful was the aid given, that in 1866, when the education for the Freedmen pressed so heavily upon the Society, the Board called upon the Baptist sisterhood for one hundred thousand dollars to aid in the education of colored people.

This, with frequent calls from the Society for aid in work among the Freedmen, and the interest awakened by reports and correspondence from missionaries and teachers, led to the organization of Women's Societies for Home Missions.

#### **Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society.**

**1877—1878.**

Upon the 14th of November, 1877, over two hundred ladies from Boston and vicinity met in the Meionaon, Tremont Temple, for the purpose of organizing a Woman's Home Mission Society.

Miss S. B. Packard presided. Much encouragement was given by a sister from Maine, who said that the women of her state were ready and waiting to unite with such a society. A constitution was adopted, and officers chosen.

The name given was "WOMAN'S AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY." Its object—"The evangelization of the women among the freed-people, the Indians, the heathen immigrants, and the new settlements of the West."

Mrs. J. Banvard was made President; Mrs. A. J. Loud, Vice President; Mrs. Thomas Nickerson, Corresponding Secretary; Miss S. B. Packard, Treasurer. An Executive Committee of twelve was also chosen.

Mrs. A. P. Mason, and Mrs. A. Pollard were appointed to prepare a paper for the churches, in the interest of the Society. Later, this committee presented a paper entitled "An appeal from the Woman's Baptist Home Mission to the Women of New England." Three thousand of these appeals were printed and circulated, and were also sent to editors of Baptist denominational papers throughout New England.

Dr. A. P. Mason also prepared a leaflet showing the need of a Woman's Home Mission Society, and ten thousand of these were circulated.

The first Circle, auxiliary to the Society, was formed at Jamaica Plain; and the first money (fifty dollars), was sent in March, 1878, to aid Mrs. Harriet Newell Hart in her work among the colored people in a little village in Georgia.

In March a committee was appointed to secure an act of incorporation.

On the twentieth of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight, the Society was legally incorporated as the "WOMAN'S AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY."

May 24th, Mrs. Thomas Nickerson, who had just returned from the south and west, met the Board of Directors, and urged the need of pushing forward the Home Mission work. At this meeting the following vote was passed:

"We will continue writing, visiting, and watching for any opportunity to do the Master's work."

In June of this year, Dr. Cutting, Corresponding Secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, met the women of the Board and talked with them of the Home field, and its urgent need of woman's work.

In August, Mrs. Banvard was appointed to prepare a paper for circulation among churches and associations.

## 6 *Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society.*

A public meeting of the Society was held September 18th, in the vestry of Tremont Temple.

In September, Miss Packard was elected Corresponding Secretary in place of Mrs. Nickerson, whose health compelled her resignation; and Mrs. Pollard was made Treasurer in place of Miss Packard.

The first public meeting outside of Boston, was in September, in connection with the State Convention, at Hyanis, Mass.

The First Annual Meeting was at the Clarendon Street Church, Boston, Nov. 14th, 1878.

Five teachers were reported in their fields of labor, and two under appointment. The receipts of the year one thousand five hundred and thirty-three dollars. There is no record of number of auxiliaries formed.

At the evening service, Dr. A. J. Gordon presided. Addresses were made by Drs. Gordon, Mason, Banvard, and Anderson. They spoke encouragingly of the work accomplished, referring to aid given by women in missionary work in the early part of the century. They urged the Society to "Go forward in the work undertaken."

### **November, 1878 — May, 1880.**

The records from November, 1878, to May, 1880, bear witness to growing interest in the work.

In November Secretaries were appointed to care for the work in Maine, Vermont, and Rhode Island. Later in the history of the Society, the title "State Secretary" was changed to "State Vice-President."

A public meeting was held March 3d, at the Meionaon, Tremont Temple. The report of it is short and comprehensive — "A SUCCESS."



During the year Miss Packard visited many cities and towns in Massachusetts and other states, receiving much encouragement; Associational Directors were appointed, and many Circles formed.

From its first organization the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society has made no effort to dictate in what manner these Circles should be organized. Always favoring Union Societies, it has fully acknowledged the right of each Church or Circle to decide the form of organization best adapted to itself.

At the Baptist Anniversaries in Saratoga, May, 1879, the Society was represented by delegates. From the report of the Secretary, given at that time, I quote the following :

"During the first year of our organization, but little was accomplished, owing to circumstances beyond our control; our way has been beset with difficulties, some of which seemed very discouraging; but God has wonderfully blessed us, in laying, so far as time has allowed, a foundation for a noble work."

Three thousand of these reports were printed and circulated. At the Board meeting, Nov. 7, 1879, it was voted "To change the time of the annual meeting from Nov., 1879, to May, 1880," thus making the second year of the Society cover sixteen months.

A public meeting, called Anniversary meeting, was held at Warren Avenue Baptist Church, Nov. 20th. The Secretary reported that she had spoken at eighty public meetings. One hundred and fifty churches were contributing to the treasury; and there were one hundred and twelve life-members.

During these sixteen months various complications and difficulties arose. Previous to the organization of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, a Society had been formed in Chicago called WOMEN'S BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY. An effort was made during the year to unite these Societies. Various meetings were

## 8 *Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society.*

held to discuss the advisability of such union. Baptist pastors of New England were added to the Advisory Committee. Consultation was held with the Board of the American Baptist Home Mission Society; a public meeting was held in New York City, Jan. 14th, 1880, at which delegates from the American Baptist Home Mission Society, Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, and Women's Baptist Home Mission Society, were present and conferred upon the subject.

Efforts for union were unsuccessful, and each Society continued its separate organization.

The work of the Women's Baptist Home Mission Society, with headquarters at Chicago, to be evangelistic; its territory all outside of New England; its operations independent of the American Baptist Home Mission Society.

The work of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, with headquarters at Boston, to be educational; its territory New England, and its operations to be co-operative with the American Baptist Home Mission Society.

Another difficulty arose from the fact that some churches in Rhode Island had formed Circles auxiliary to the western Society. This was happily adjusted, and their interest transferred to the eastern Society.

The Second Annual Meeting was held Thursday, May 21st, at Harvard St. Church, Boston. At this meeting the action of the Societies in convention at New York City, Jan. 14th, 1880, concerning the adjustment of the relations of the eastern and western Societies, was ratified.

Notwithstanding all its difficulties the year had been one of success. A large and enthusiastic meeting had been held at Martha's Vineyard in August, at which a helpful impulse had been given to the work.



**1880 — 1881.**

The third year of its history marks the founding of the school in Atlanta. Miss Packard and Miss Giles had returned from a visit to the South, firmly believing in the need of schools for the colored women and girls.

At the Board meeting of February, 1881, Miss Packard strongly expressed the wish that the Society would start such a school, and said (what she afterwards proved), she "was willing to spend her best efforts to make it a success and blessing to the freed people of the South."

At the Board meeting in March, Mrs. Byam of Charleston, seconded by Mrs. Mason of Chelsea, moved :

"That the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society establish a school for colored women and girls."

At a following meeting, upon motion of Mrs. Sturtevant of Jamaica Plain, Miss Packard and Miss Giles were appointed teachers to Atlanta, Georgia, "to engage in whatever educational work their judgment should dictate."

From this time Miss Packard's name disappears from the Board of Directors ; but the severing of her connection with the Board marks the beginning of her life work.

April 2d, 1881, Rev. Frank Quarles, pastor of the Friendship Baptist Church, Atlanta, was in his study praying the Lord to send Baptist teachers to open a school for colored girls and women.

April 1st, Misses Packard and Giles reached Atlanta. They went the next morning to Mr. Quarles' home, and were taken to his study. It was some minutes before they could make him hear their knock. He was upon his knees pleading with God for Christian teachers for his people. His first words when he met them were, "God has sent you."

On the 11th of April a school was opened in the dark damp basement of the Friendship Church ; eleven names were enrolled.

Here amid discouragements that would have daunted less courageous hearts, Miss Packard and Miss Giles laid the foundation of the far famed Spelman Seminary. To-day its beautiful buildings, its complete equipment for educational work, are the admiration of all who visit it. Much of its material prosperity is due to that prince of givers, Hon. John D. Rockefeller. Its influence for good is felt throughout all the South and in foreign lands, while the names of S. B. Packard and H. E. Giles are written upon the hearts and in the lives of thousands of colored girls in the South.

The Third Annual Meeting was held May 9th, 1881, in the Meionaon, Tremont Temple. At this time Mrs. Thomas Nickerson was made President, which position she so long and faithfully filled.

The record of the year's work is encouraging; number of teachers increased; beneficiaries aided at Benedict Institute, at Natchez, New Orleans, Nashville; Live Oak, Florida; and Tallequah, Indian Territory. "Young Workers," "Busy Bees," and "Earnest Workers" had been added to the working forces. Mrs. Nickerson had visited various parts of Maine; letters had been written by members of the Board to individuals and churches in each New England State. "Advance" was the watch-word of the year.

In November, 1881, Mrs. R. C. Mather made to the Society the gift of the school property at Beaufort, South Carolina.

### 1881 — 1882.

At the Board meeting in June, Drs. Mason and Morehouse were present, and gave helpful suggestions concerning the work. Here, I wish to record the interest and fidelity of Dr. Mason to the Woman's American Baptist



Home Mission Society, giving at all times and in all places needed help and encouragement.

The Board meeting of August was at Martha's Vineyard. A public meeting was also held, when Prof. Bacone of Indian Territory, and Drs. Corey and Dickenson were present. Five hundred and twenty-five dollars were raised for the work among the schools.

The Fourth Annual Meeting was held with the First Church, Boston, May 3d, 1882.

The Secretary reported eleven teachers supported, and forty-five students cared for, wholly or in part by the Society. Cheering reports were read from teachers, and from branch organizations.

The Society having under consideration work among the Mormons, invited Rev. Dwight Spencer of Utah, to address the meeting. He gave from his own observation a picture of woman's degradation and misery while living in polygamy, and urged sending Christian teachers at once to this important mission field.

### 1882—1883.

Early in this year Miss Adams, our teacher from Louisville, Ky., and Mrs. Mather, from Beaufort, S. C., visited churches in the interest of the work. Every Baptist church in New England which had not a Home Mission Society received this year from the Secretary, Mrs. Pollard, an appeal for help in the work. Members of the Board also visited churches and associations in the interest of the Society.

Mrs. Hunt's poem, "Doubling the Mission Dollar," was scattered freely among the workers. Mrs. Nickerson and Mrs. Pollard visited the schools at Atlanta and Beaufort.

Five hundred dollars were given by Mrs. Nickerson and friends from First the Baptist Church, Springfield, and Charlestown First, towards erecting a chapel in Deming, New Mexico.

The Fifth Annual Meeting was held May 9th, at Warren Avenue, Boston. The annual report for the first time included reports from Vice-Presidents of States. The Secretary reported the Society supporting two teachers in Utah, one at Ogden, and one at Salt Lake. Besides these, thirteen teachers had been supported, and fifty-six pupils cared for by the Society. In its early years great help was thus given to beneficiaries.

The receipts of the year were somewhat over ten thousand dollars.

Mrs. Pollard spoke from personal observation of the work at Atlanta and Beaufort. A request was made that the constitution should be so amended that the Executive Board should consist of fifteen, instead of twelve members.

### 1883—1884.

In June, Prof. Teft met the Directors, and reported that Dea. J. C. Hartshorn, of Providence, would give ten thousand dollars as a nucleus for a school for colored girls. This, a gift in memory of his wife, Mrs. Rachel Hartshorn, a beloved and efficient member of the Board of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, who entered into rest October 21st, 1882.

Richmond, Va., was selected as the place for the school. An estate formerly owned and occupied by a slave-holder, was purchased. The principal, Prof. Teft, and teachers, found a home in the mansion house. The vestry of Ebenezer Church, half a mile away in the same street, was hired, and school was opened November, 1883, with thirty-one pupils. In April following, Mr. Hartshorn gave another



ten thousand dollars, and arrangements were made for the erection of the present commodious house, which bears the name Hartshorn Memorial College. Here, though in an unfinished house, the school opened its second year in the autumn of 1884. July 11th, 1889, Dea. Hartshorn entered into everlasting life—but everlasting are the influences for good flowing from his life and benefactions. This year the school at Atlanta received aid of two thousand dollars from the Slater fund, and also the gift of a clear-toned bell from Mr. Albert Nickerson. By consent of the donors, the five hundred given for a church in Deming, New Mexico, was transferred towards a school building in Salt Lake, Utah—the need at Deming having been supplied.

In February, 1883, nine acres of land and five frame buildings formerly used for the barracks of the United States troops, were purchased by the American Baptist Home Mission Society, and our school at Atlanta was moved to a most delightful location in full sight of the Kennesaw mountains. When this was purchased, the Society, not realizing the proportions to which our school would grow, contemplated removing the Atlanta Baptist Seminary to this location, and uniting the two schools. But from the first it seemed that the school founded in Friendship Church should be a separate school, for girls and women; and the American Baptist Home Mission Society were asked that it should so remain.

To secure this result necessitated the raising of eleven thousand dollars. The Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society voted to assume ten thousand dollars; and Miss Packard took upon herself the burden of raising the whole eleven thousand. In December six thousand dollars had been pledged; in January, 1884, eight hundred more had been added, and this seemed the utmost that could be raised. In March twenty-two hundred was still needed.

An appeal for help was printed in the *Watchman*, and pastors were asked to present the case to their people. Gifts varying from one to one thousand dollars were given by New England men and women—but more than half of the whole sum was given by Hon. J. D. Rockefeller—and at his request, and by unanimous consent of the Board, the name was changed from Atlanta Baptist Female Seminary to SPELMAN SEMINARY, in honor of the father and mother of Mrs. Rockefeller, both devoted friends of the colored people.

The Sixth Annual Meeting was held May 7th, 1884, with the Baptist Church, Jamaica Plain, Mass. At this time the President, Mrs. Nickerson, was absent, traveling in Mexico and in our own country, with eyes and heart open to needs for Christian work, and new fields for Christian teachers. The request made at the last annual meeting for amendment to the constitution, was granted. The annual report was one of increased *interest, progress, and success*.

The appeals sent in 1883 from the Board to the women of New England, and re-echoed by Vice-Presidents and Directors in States and Associations, asking the women of New England to share the responsibility of the work, had borne abundant fruit.

#### 1884 — 1885.

In June, by request of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, and from Mrs. Nickerson's interest in Mexico, the Society assumed the support of a teacher there.

A public meeting was held in the early summer at Clarendon Street Church, at which teachers from various fields were present. In August a teacher for the Chinese in Fresno, California, was appointed. Mrs. Pollard having been not only Treasurer, but Corresponding Secretary since the resignation of Mrs. Hesseltine, in

January, 1882, she now asked for help in the work, and Mrs. A. E. Gray was appointed Assistant Corresponding Secretary.

January, 1885, in answer to a demand for a paper representing the Society's work, it was voted to publish one, and a committee was appointed to make arrangements as to name, price, and editor. The name *Home Mission Echo*, was given by Mrs. Hunt. The motto, "The country which I lifted up mine hand to give unto your fathers," was suggested by Dr. McWhinnie, of Cambridge. The first issue of the *Echo* bore date February, 1885, and during the remainder of the year it was edited by officers of the Society and members of the Board. Much help was given them by Mrs. M. C. Reynolds.

During this year a request was made to our Sunday Schools to give the collection of one Sunday in April for Woman's Home Mission work.

Seventh Annual Meeting met May 7th, 1885, at Old Cambridge. The year, like its predecessors, not only bore witness to material prosperity, but to the presence of God's converting Spirit in all our schools. Education of the heart and winning of souls to Christ has been the aim of the Society from the beginning. Reports of teachers bore witness to work being done which eternity alone can reveal. The first class of graduates, twelve in number, went out from the Normal Department, Spelman, all followers of the Saviour. The school building at Salt Lake was finished and comfortably furnished. Rev. Dwight Spencer said of this, "Our church work in Salt Lake City has been greatly helped by the school supported by the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society of New England. This Society came grandly to our aid, and before the new church was completed, they had a school building well under way."



### 1885 — 1886.

In January, 1886, Mrs. Hunt of Augusta, became editor of the *Echo*.

In March, Miss Alice Merriam was made one of the Board of Directors. She came to us with a heart full of love for missions, and an experience gained by visiting various mission fields among Indians, Mormons, and Freedmen.

This year saw the "Barracks" at Spelman so overcrowded that ground was broken for a large brick building, which was to contain a chapel, recitation room and dormitories. The largest donor was Mr. Rockefeller, and it was named Rockefeller Hall.

The first one thousand dollars was from Dea. Mial Davis and wife, of Fitchburg, Mass., who were then, as now, firm friends and helpers of the school. Two thousand dollars were contributed for the chapel by Rev. William Howe, D. D., of Cambridge, in memory of his wife, Mrs. Angelina Howe.

The Eighth Annual Meeting was held at Newton, May 5th, 1886. Five hundred were present. The reports testified that the Lord had blessed the faithful services of the workers. Interest in Home Missions had been strengthened, gifts increased, and many souls won to Christ.

### 1886 — 1887.

Early in the ninth year the work in Mexico was strengthened, and the first attempt at Christian work in Alaska was undertaken.

Mrs. W. E. Roscoe was appointed a teacher to St. Paul, Kadiak Island, Alaska.

In June, Mrs. Pollard, who had so long and faithfully served the Society, resigned on account of ill health. Mrs. Gray, her assistant, having accepted a position as teacher at Spelman, Miss Margaret McWhinnie was, in July,

appointed Treasurer of the Society; and in September, Mrs. M. C. Reynolds, Corresponding Secretary.

Leaflets had been more or less important factors in the work of the Society, and during this year Mrs. Carpenter contributed one entitled, "A Talk About Mite Boxes," which, from that time to the present, has been very helpful.

To strengthen the connection between the *Echo* and the workers in the field, a teacher from each school was requested to send a monthly letter to the editor, Mrs. Hunt.

January 6th, 1887, the school building at Salt Lake was destroyed by incendiary fire, and the school was continued in the church building until the house could be rebuilt.

In April, in order that the educational and financial management of Spelman Seminary could be transferred to the American Baptist Home Mission Society, the following resolutions were passed by the Directors of the Woman's Society, and were afterwards adopted by the Directors of the New York Society:

*Resolved*, That the Board of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society ask the Board of the American Baptist Home Mission Society to assume the management, both financial and educational, of Spelman Seminary, for the W. A. B. H. M. S., — the Woman's Society agreeing to pay the salaries of teachers, whose appointment shall be mutually agreed upon by the two Societies. The A. B. H. M. S. agreeing that the surplus receipts of the boarding department, tuition fees, and room rent, after paying for insurance and all necessary expenses, shall be placed on deposit subject to the draft of the Treasurer of the W. A. B. H. M. S. — and the monthly receipts of the school, including all donations of money, shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Woman's Society.

The Ninth Annual Meeting was held for the first time outside of Boston and vicinity, with the First Baptist Church, Providence.

During the year one thousand dollars by special gifts had been received to secure a school room in the new Baptist building in the city of Mexico.

One thousand dollars beside the insurance being needed to rebuild the Salt Lake school house, five hundred dollars was pledged at this meeting.

There was an undertone of sadness in the report of the Secretary. Many changes had occurred among the officers of the Society. The resignation of our Secretary, Mrs. Pollard, came to us in June. Mrs. Pollard was one of those who laid the foundation of the Society. Her hope and confidence in its success had inspired many. She had served the Society first as Clerk, and for seven years as Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. Her resignation was followed August 21st, by the death of her husband, Rev. Andrew Pollard, D. D. In his death the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society was afflicted. Dr. Pollard had been its counsellor, adviser, and friend through all the years of its existence. Workers together for the Master, Dr. Pollard had always a word of welcome and God speed for all who came to consult with his wife.

November 22d, Miss Sarah Champney, one of our first teachers, fell asleep in Jesus, at Spelman Seminary, among the race for whose elevation she had given her life.

Seven new teachers had been appointed by the Society during the year. The work among the young people had steadily increased—the *mite boxes* had proved powerful helpers in the work—the circulation of the *Echo* increased to five thousand seven hundred. Two public meetings had been held, one at Cottage City, Mass., and one at Crescent Beach, Conn.

#### 1887 — 1888.

At the first meeting of the Directors, a "Bureau of Information" was established under the charge of the efficient Clerk, Mrs. C. E. Daniels, to whom papers prepared for Circles and Bands could be sent and distributed for further use.



Again the Society was called to pass through the fire. In June came the dispatch from Spelman, "Union Hall burned to ashes, nothing saved." Misses Pollard and Giles, who were North, planning for a restful vacation, immediately began to secure aid for the rebuilding of Union Hall. Appeals were sent out from our Society for money for this purpose. In September, Mrs. E. A. Slack, of Merrimac, N. H., promised six thousand dollars for the building if it could be named Howard Hall, in memory of her mother.

As no conditions were imposed but such as the Society could agree to, the gift was accepted, and the corner-stone laid November 15th, 1887, and the name Howard Hall given to the building. November 18th, the letter of conveyance was sent to the Society, but this letter stipulated that the school should be always under control of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society. Inasmuch as it was necessary that the Seminary should be incorporated, and as that would place the control of the school under the care of a Board of Trustees, the Society asked Mrs. Slack to so modify her gift as to meet this state of things. This she refused to do, and withdrew her gift. The utmost courtesy and appreciation was shown to Mrs. Slack, but the result of the negotiation was a great surprise and regret to all. June 20th, Mrs. McWhinnie presented the following to the Board:

Inasmuch as the Slack Fund has been withdrawn, and the name Howard Hall forfeited,

*Resolved*—That it is the wish of this Board that the new building at Spelman should be named Packard Hall, as a fitting testimonial to the faithful service Miss Packard has given to the school.

During this year the Massachusetts legislature granted the petition presented by a committee from the Society, to enlarge the purposes of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society.

CHAPTER 204, ACTS OF 1888.

SECTION I. The Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society is authorized and empowered to carry on the work of evangelizing and educating the women and children in any part of North America.

(Approved April 9, 1888.)

The fires at Salt Lake and Atlanta for a time so diverted the funds of the Society from their regular course, that in February the Treasurer's books showed a deficit. The Secretary issued an appeal from the Board to the women of the churches for one thousand dollars above their usual offering. The method suggested for raising this amount was for each sister to have a "self-denial week."

The Tenth Annual Meeting was with the First Baptist Church, Worcester, Mass. It had been another year of progress. The increasing demand for Home Mission literature, increased circulation of the *Echo*, and the success of the Bureau of Information, proved the interest in the work deepening. Basket meetings in the interest of Missions had been held in different states with great success. Thirteen hundred dollars had come into the treasury as the result of the week of self-denial, making the receipts of the year over twenty-seven thousand dollars. Reports from teachers told of over-crowded schools, and over-worked teachers.

1888 — 1889.

In June, with great sorrow the Board recorded the death of Mrs. S. A. D. Sheppard, of Newton, a very valuable member of the Board from 1886 to 1888.

The year was marked by increase of the work in the Indian Territory, and by a visit to the Board of Dr. Sheldon Jackson, United States Commissioner for Education in Alaska. He asked that as soon as possible a teacher might be sent to Wood Island, Alaska. The request was granted.

In the autumn Mrs. Reynolds visited Louisville, Ky., Indian Territory, and California, in the interest of the Society.

March, 1889. After much deliberation, it was deemed wise to discontinue the school at Salt Lake at the close of the school year. This action was caused from the fact that the work of our Society was being done by the public schools of the city, and that the grade required for a school at this place was higher than we could assume.

The Eleventh Annual Meeting was held in the Perkins Street Baptist Church, East Somerville, May 8th.

The report of the Secretary showed thirty-four teachers had been employed in eighteen different schools. From Atlanta one of the graduates had been appointed as a missionary to the Congo. Miss Rounds, a graduate of Wayland Seminary, and Miss Cook, of Louisville, had visited Circles and Bands during the fall and spring, and much interest was awakened. Grateful mention was made of the faithful work of Directors and Vice-Presidents, and of the Society's indebtedness to Mrs. L. C. Barnes, of Newton Center, for a series of valuable leaflets upon Indians, Mexicans and Negroes. The year had been a successful one—successful in that many scholars in the different schools had been brought to Christ.

### 1889 — 1890.

In July, Mrs. M. A. Dawes, who had collected money for a school building at Berwyn, I. T., met the Directors, and offered the building when finished to the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society. As all buildings of the Woman's Society were under the direct control of the New York Society, she was referred to the Directors of that Society. Aid in her work was promised by sending teachers when the school should be opened.



The time of closing the fiscal year was changed from May 1st to April 1st, thus giving the Treasurer more time to prepare her report for the annual meeting. Increase of work and care called for more help, and in September Mrs. H. G. Safford was appointed Second Vice-President.

Work having been abandoned at Salt Lake, the Secretary was instructed to inform Dr. Barnet, General Missionary of Utah, of the Society's willingness to resume mission work there at whatever point he might suggest.

The Twelfth Annual Meeting was at Hartford, Ct., May 7th and 8th.

In the absence of Mrs. Nickerson, Mrs. Hunt, Vice-President, presided. A slight change in the Constitution was made by vote of Society, changing the clause "The officers of the Society shall be President, Vice-President," to "President or one or more Vice-Presidents;" also fixing the life-membership at twenty-five dollars, paid at one time.

Miss Cook, of Louisville, Ky., Miss Rounds of Indian Territory, and Miss Mitchell, of New Iberia, La., had visited circles and churches during the autumn.

The Secretary reported, "No part of the work gave greater promise than the increased interest among the young people."

A part of the state of Connecticut, working independently under the name of the "New Haven Union," the following was offered:

*Resolved*, That it is the desire of this gathering of missionary workers, that the women of the churches comprising the Woman's Home Mission Union of Connecticut, be hereby most cordially invited to unite with the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society in its work, thus, by union multiplying strength, and unifying all efforts for the advancement of the kingdom of Christ in our own land.

The following unexpected communication received from Mrs. Nickerson, resigning her position as President of the

Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, cast a cloud over the closing exercises of the twelfth annual meeting :

Boston, May 6, 1890.

To the Officers and Members of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, in Annual Meeting assembled :

Dear Sisters :

On account of ill health, I feel compelled to resign the office of President of this Society. I need not express my regret, but I consider this step is imperative, and must be considered final. For some time I have felt that a younger and more active person could better serve the Society ; though I am sure no one can have its interests at heart more than I, who have watched it from its very infancy. Let me assure you of that continued interest while I live, and of my prayer that God, who has so abundantly blessed us in the past, may continue His care and guidance in the future. Thanking you for your great kindness and forbearance, I am

Your loving sister,

Mrs. THOS. NICKERSON.

Mrs. Nickerson's resignation was sorrowfully accepted, but coming too late in the session to present the name of a successor, the matter of appointing one was referred to a committee consisting of the Executive Board and State Vice-Presidents, and the following was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the members of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society deeply regret the necessity which impels our late honored President to decline holding the office longer because of ill health. That we highly appreciate the ability and faithfulness with which she has served us these many years ; and that we shall ever follow her with our sympathy and prayers. We recommend that Mrs. Nickerson be appointed Honorary President of this Society for the remainder of her life.

### 1890 — 1891.

In June, a special meeting of the Board of Directors and State Vice-Presidents was called to consider the election of a President. Miss Alice Merriam was unanimously chosen.

The following were placed on record :

*Resolved*, That this Board place on record our appreciation of the faithful labors of our former President and presiding officer,

Mrs. Thomas Nickerson, mainly instrumental in the organization of the Society, its President from 1879 to May, 1890. In sickness and in health, for eleven years she has been our faithful leader in all forms of mission work. She has often visited the various fields of our work, to the great encouragement of the teachers and scholars, and gave largely of her means for their advancement.

Wise and judicious in her administration of the affairs of the Society, she should be largely credited for our present success and prosperity. As one who by her long service has known the whole history of the Society, her counsels, judgment, and advice have been invaluable. It is therefore fitting that we place on record our high esteem for herself and for the service she has rendered the cause of Home Missions, and we would express our sorrow that the state of her health compelled her to resign the office she has so long held and honored. "May the Lord bless her, and keep her," and give to her still more years of service in His cause.

*Resolved*, That we recommend that she be made an honorary member of this Board, with all the privileges of the Board.

Mrs. J. McWHINNIE.

Mrs. M. C. REYNOLDS.

Mrs. D. E. J. DURANT.

It having been decided to sell the school property at Salt Lake as early as possible after September first, a communication was sent to the First Baptist Church of that city, offering them the purchase of the same. This offer resulted in the lease of the building for a term of years.

A communication was received from the "New Haven Union," in answer to the request for union made at the twelfth annual meeting, "That it seemed more expedient and wiser for them to remain distinct from the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society."

In November, Miss Margaret McWhinnie, who had been granted leave of absence on account of ill health, finding that entire and absolute rest only would restore her to health, resigned her position as Treasurer of the Society. "Miss McWhinnie had peculiar fitness for her work, and



had endeared herself to the hearts of all who knew her. Her resignation was accepted with profound sorrow." Miss Alice E. Stedman was appointed her successor.

In December Mrs. Safford received and accepted the position of Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society.

"As Vice-President of Massachusetts, as a member of our Board, and general helper in the work, Mrs. Safford had won for herself a warm place in many hearts."

To help Mr. Westrup in his work in Mexico, two hundred dollars was given for translating Christian literature into the Spanish language.

Thirteenth Annual Meeting, May 6th and 7th, at the First Baptist Church, Cambridgeport.

A Worker's Conference on Wednesday, brought many valuable suggestions to those present.

A strong plea for more work among the Indians, especially among the wild tribes, was made by Mrs. Lottie Perkins, of Muscogee, I. T. Four new workers had been appointed among the Chinese. Mrs. Faodorf was working at Karluk, Alaska, and a school had been opened at Provo, Utah. Miss H. A. Miller, a graduate of Hartshorn College, had visited Circles, and by her earnest words awakened much interest.

In September a public meeting was held at Clarendon St. Church, Boston, at which teachers were present from Spelman, Mather School, and Dawes Academy. At this meeting, Miss Packard was present. She had just returned from a European trip; though in feeble health, she was returning to her loved Spelman with new plans for work. It was the last time we were to see her.

### 1891 — 1892.

The fourteenth year was marked by the transferring from the earthly to the heavenly service of many who had been

intimately connected with the Society. June 21st, Miss S. B. Packard's life and work on earth closed. The Board of Directors, "recognizing with gratitude and reverence the marvellous work of this God-given leader and teacher, in the founding and upbuilding of Spelman Seminary," placed on record the following :

Inasmuch as our sister, Miss S. B. Packard, has been called from her earthly work, we the members of the Board of the W. A. B. H. M. Society, desire to express our sincere admiration and love for her as a Christian woman, and the efficient Principal of Spelman Seminary, the beginning and prosperous history of which are largely due to her untiring zeal and devotion to the highest welfare of the colored people.

We deeply sympathize with her beloved friend and fellow-worker, Miss H. E. Giles, in this bereavement, and with the other teachers and pupils for whom she has been so long a tower of strength, a counsellor and friend.

We desire also to place on record our appreciation of the faith and perseverance with which she carried out the largest plans in behalf of the people she loved so well, overcoming obstacles which would have daunted weaker hearts.

It is with a great sense of loss we submit to her translation from us, while we are comforted by the assurance that the results and influence of her life of sacrifice will abide with us, as an inspiration to maintain and strengthen the Institute for which she gave her life.

Memorial services for Miss Packard were held September 11th, in the Meionaon, Tremont Temple.

Upon the morning of July 16, our Honorary President, Mrs. Thomas Nickerson, who had been for weeks and months in failing health, "awoke in the Master's presence." In August the following tribute of affection was placed upon our records :

The members of the Executive Board of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, sincerely mourning the death of its Honorary President, Mrs. Thomas Nickerson, desire to record their deep sense of the loss the Society has sustained by the removal of its earliest and best friend.

From the very commencement of the Woman's Society in Boston, in 1877, Mrs. Nickerson identified herself with the few earnest women who felt the need and demand for the special help of women in our Home Mission Society's work, and she acted as Corresponding Secretary of the new organization.

Her loving zeal and untiring interest aroused and stimulated others, and her faithful words in many a church in New England concerning the needs of the south and west, have borne fruit in consecrated lives and systematic giving.

For many years Mrs. Nickerson was President of the Society, and Chairman of our Board, relinquishing her position on account of failing health in May, 1890.

She brought to our deliberations her clear judgment and wise thought and experience, ever seeking with kind consideration for all, to guide our counsels towards the wisest decisions.

Nor can we forget her constant devotion to the growing missionary and educational work for our country and Mexico, her readiness to make appeals for it in meetings, and the journeys to distant fields, where in loneliness and difficulties our teachers have been cheered by her encouraging and helpful words. To all who have labored and prayed with their beloved friend and leader her memory will ever be dear.

Our sincere sympathy is tendered in their bereavement to her beloved husband and family, with whom the sweet remembrance of her devoted love will ever abide, and "her children" with many beside, "will rise up, and call her blessed."

In imitation of her example, we, who shared her labors of love, may well make a renewed consecration to the service of the Master, into whose presence our sister has now entered.

Memorial services for our departed Honorary President were held October 30th, at Clarendon Street Church. The services were conducted by Prof. O. F. Stearns, a life-long friend of Mrs. Nickerson.

"The years will come and go. New policies will, in the very nature of things, and as an outgrowth of the present condition and needs of the field, supersede some of the old; but let the name of Mrs. Thomas Nickerson, the prime mover in the formation of our Society, be held in loving memory as one who threw around it her loving sympathies and care like a protecting shield, in the days of

its sore trial — and who always stood firm as a rock for what she felt was best for our growth and efficiency.”

Tuesday evening, June 30th, Miss Alice Merriam, our President, was married to Mr. George W. Coleman.

Miss H. E. Giles, the life long associate of Miss Packard, was made Principal of Spelman, and Miss Lucy Upton Associate Principal.

The report of the Finance Committee showed the Society could safely enlarge its work; and after consultation with Dr. MacVicar, Superintendent of Education for the American Baptist Home Mission Society, a Missionary Training Department was added at Spelman, where young colored women could be prepared to do efficient missionary work among their own people.

December. The Board decided to build the long asked for Orphanage in Alaska, and an appeal was sent to Churches, Circles, and Bands, for five thousand dollars for this purpose. The response was almost immediate. It was a Christmas offering from the Christian workers of New England to the destitute children of Alaska.

March 2d, Dr. McWhinnie of Cambridge; and March 17th, Dr. A. P. Mason, of Chelsea, were called home. Of Dr. McWhinnie it is written, “True friend and helper of the Society, unwavering in his kindness, responding always to calls for advice and counsel.” He voiced “The Cry of the Alaskan Children” in song that shall never be forgotten, the last gift of a great loving heart to the cause he loved so well.

Dr. Mason had been for twenty-six years District Secretary for New England, of the American Baptist Home Mission Society. He had been our wise counsellor and helpful friend; and the Woman's Society placed on record “its heartfelt appreciation of the kind services he so often rendered, and an abiding sense of the loss it had sustained.”



The Fourteenth Annual Meeting was held with the Central Baptist Church, Newport, R. I., May 4th and 5th.

The faithful and efficient Clerk, Mrs. C. E. Daniels, had been obliged, because of sickness, to relinquish her position; and Mrs. E. M. Milliken had been appointed her successor.

It had been a year of shadows, but marked by the light of Him "in whose presence is fullness of joy, and at whose right hand are pleasures forevermore."

The work of the Society had been enlarged in every direction; the blessing of the Master had been upon work and workers.

The Missionary Training Department was in successful operation at Spelman.

During the year the Bands of New England had given nearly one-fifth of the whole receipts of the Society. Over four thousand dollars was received for the Alaskan Orphanage.

The question has often been asked, what is the policy of the Society regarding the work among the young people of our churches? We answer: It has always deprecated every effort to divide the Mission Bands and Young People's Societies. Teach them that the field is the world. Let them hear the claims of all parts of the field. Let us not divide them into various organizations and societies, of which there are already too many. We consider, however, that in this, as in the forming of circles, the churches themselves know best how to do their own work in their own way.

### 1892 — 1893.

Early this year, that the work of our Secretary might be lightened, the Directors engaged Miss Mary Teft, of Richmond, Va., for a term of months as her assistant. Mrs. Reynolds was given leave of absence for four months, in

which time she was to visit our various Mission Schools. Previous to this Miss Teft had given her services as teacher at Hartshorn Memorial College.

During the summer the frame of the Kadiak Orphanage was sent to Alaska, from San Francisco. Delays in shipping it occurred, and it did not reach Kadiak until late in the fall, when regular communication with the island having ceased, we could proceed no farther until spring. According to instruction, the building material was properly stored and cared for until some one should arrive and superintend its erection. During the winter a letter was received from a Russian priest of the Greek Church in Alaska, asking the Society to donate or sell this lumber to their church, or else co-operate with them in building a "Home for children of *all* denominations."

January 25, 1893, a public meeting was held in the Meionaon, in the interest of the Alaskan work. Rev. Sheldon Jackson, D. D., was present, and spoke to large audiences both morning and afternoon.

In March, Rev. W. E. Roscoe sailed from San Francisco to Kadiak, to superintend the work.

As to the character of the man to whom we entrusted this work, let the following testimonial from a pastor in San Francisco, bear witness :

Mr. Roscoe is one of the truest of all true, honored all over Alaska. The Home Mission Society has no nobler or more intelligent worker.

A call was made for five thousand dollars more for the building, and Circles, Bands, King's Daughters and Sunday Schools were asked to give this amount. They responded nobly to this call, and also to that for supplies for the Home. A beautiful flag was given by Mr. Upham, of the *Youth's Companion*. Colonel Estey, of Brattleboro, Vt., contributed an organ. Much aid in securing the money

was received from the Star and Alaskan cards planned by Miss Stedman, our Treasurer, and the Planks and Shingles suggested by Miss M. C. Evans.

March 19th, by the burning of Tremont Temple, we were driven from our head-quarters on Tremont street, and after much inconvenience and hard work, found our present quarters at No. 2 A Beacon street. Our loss by fire was several hundred dollars.

The Fifteenth Annual Meeting was at the Temple Church, Dorchester, May 3d and 4th.

The year had been one of improved opportunities; old fields had been strengthened, new ones added. In February work had been undertaken for the "poor whites" at Muscogee, Indian Territory, for whom neither government nor county make provision.

This year the Society had assumed the support of Miss Helen Clarke, in her work among the Chinese of New York City. At the meeting Miss Clarke was present, and stirred all hearts with her enthusiasm as she told of the beginning and progress of the Morning Star Mission.

The Society placed on its records at this time the following:

*Resolved*—That our Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society desires to record its most emphatic protest against the present policy of our national government as expressed in the unjust Chinese bill, which became a law May 5th, 1892, and which goes into effect on the 6th of the present month. We object to this law on the ground of its unprecedented injustice to the Chinamen, who like other foreigners, have come to our shores, — believing it to be a gross violation of our existing treaty with China, and our obligations to the representatives of that nation.

The receipts of the year amounted to over forty-one thousand dollars, the highest in its history. The increased circulation of the *Echo*, and the call for the programmes of the work so carefully prepared by Mrs. G. F. Genung, testified that the work was upon the hearts of our women

and young people, while the spirit of consecration manifested at the meeting bore witness to the truth that in blessing others we may ourselves be blessed.

### 1893 — 1894.

In June, Mrs. McWhinnie, for nine years a member of the Board of Directors, was appointed General Assistant and Superintendent of the Alaskan Work. The beginning of the year brought encouraging reports from Mr. Roscoe. Miss Currant was sent in July as teacher to Kadiak, but returned in December with a physician's certificate that it was impossible for her to remain longer. This was a great disappointment; but believing that the work is of the Lord, and that He will care for His own, we are not discouraged, and are looking for a teacher to go there as early as possible. Six hundred and forty acres of land have been taken up on Wood Island, between Kadiak and Afognac Islands. The Orphanage has been built, and when we last heard from Mr. Roscoe, (December 19, 1893), was nearly completed.

Supplies have been sent from New England, and some from San Francisco. The King's Daughters of First Cambridge, have paid for a large boat, in loving memory of their pastor, Dr. McWhinnie. Eight children are in the Home, and those who one year ago knew nothing of a Saviour's love, are now singing our Sabbath School hymns, and some have found the Christ.

Of the ten thousand dollars necessary for the building, but five hundred remain to be raised. It is the wish of the Society that the Sunday Schools of New England shall assume the support of the Orphanage.

In December, Giles Hall, a new building providing for the Normal and Missionary Training Department, with large class rooms, dormitories and lecture room, was



dedicated at Spelman. This, with a central heating plant, containing four boilers from which steam heat is carried to Rockefeller, Packard, and Giles Halls, has been erected through the continued generosity of Mr. Rockefeller.

The work of the Society has been enlarged during the year. It was first thought we might raise fifty thousand dollars the past year, but the financial depression came so speedily and continued so long, that it has seemed unwise to ask for that amount. We come to the close of the fiscal year anxiously; but He who hitherto has led us, has been better to us than our fears. The Treasurer reports nearly thirty-eight thousand dollars have been received. Letters accompanying the money witness that the spirit of sacrifice has entered into the gifts; such sacrifice as God will own and bless.

In 1878, five teachers were supported by the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society. It now supports fifty-eight teachers, and eleven young women at Spelman are being trained as student teachers. At first its work was mostly among the Freedmen and Indians. Now, it includes the Freedmen, Indians, Mormons, Mexicans, Alaskans, Chinese and "the stranger within our gates." We have missed our pleasant head-quarters in Tremont Temple, but we hope another year will find us there.

We have found in Dr. Hazlewood a true friend and helper. He has aided us over hard places. In him the American Baptist Home Mission Society have a worthy successor of Dr. Mason, and one who is ready always to "help those women."

Such are the records of sixteen years' work—work imperfectly done, but in His name and from love to Him whose we are and whom we serve. If in this sketch we have spoken of one school more than another, it is because the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society and Spelman Seminary are identical. The history

of one is the history of the other ; and Spelman is a type of all the schools cared for by the Society. Their work takes hold on the life that now is and the life that is to come, the results of which eternity alone can reveal. "Other men labored, and ye are entered into their labors." The successes of the present are in a great measure due to the faithful labors of the past. Those who laid the foundation of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society laid it in *love*, and *faith* and *prayer*—and the corner stone is Christ.

We miss the faces and counsels of many connected with the Society in its earliest history. They have passed out of our sight, but they live forevermore. They have joined the triumphing host of the first-born—their names are written in Heaven. But they are interested in all our work.

"A cloud of witnesses around  
Hold us in full survey."

As by faith we hear their songs of triumph, let them witness our constancy and faithfulness to the trusts committed to us. The *Workers* are translated, but the work goes on. *Our* time is *now*. "There remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."

"He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat,  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat.

O, be swift, my' soul, to answer Him ; be jubilant, my feet,  
Our God is marching on."

CAMBRIDGE, May 1st, 1894.

**Officers, Nov., 1877 — Nov., 1878.**

**President.**

MRS. J. BANVARD, NEPONSET.

**Vice-President.**

MRS. ANDREW J. LOUD, Boston.

**Corresponding Secretary.**

\*MRS. THOMAS NICKERSON, Newton Centre.

**Recording Secretary.**

MRS. A. POLLARD, South Boston.

**Treasurer.**

\*MISS S. B. PACKARD, Boston.

**Executive Board.**

*For Three Years.*

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MRS. GEORGE S. DEXTER, Boston.

MRS. PERCIVAL T. BARTLETT, Newton Centre.

MRS. HENRY MCCOY, South Boston.

*For Two Years.*

MISS M. B. GURNEY, South Abington.

MRS. W. H. L. SMITH, Boston.

MRS. H. LINCOLN CHASE, Brookline.

MRS. J. TILSON, Boston Highlands.

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MRS. H. SAFFORD, South Boston.

\*MRS. F. S. HESSELTINE, Melrose.

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**Officers, Nov., 1878 — May, 1880.**

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Mrs. A. J. POLLARD, Boston.

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**Executive Board.**

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Mrs. HENRY MCCOY, South Boston.

*For One Year.*

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Mrs. H. SAFFORD, South Boston.

\*Mrs. A. M. HART, Boston Highlands.

Mrs. J. TILSON, Hingham.



**Officers, 1880 — 1881.**

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*For Three Years.*

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\*Miss S. B. PACKARD, Boston.

Mrs. B. F. STURTEVANT, Jamaica Plain.

*For Two Years.*

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Mrs. O. S. STEARNS, Newton Centre.

\*Mrs. F. S. HESSELTINE, Melrose.

*For One Year.*

Mrs. A. P. MASON, Chelsea.

\*Mrs. A. R. PORTER, South Boston.

Mrs. CHARLES BYAM, Charlestown.

Mrs. HENRY MCCOY, South Boston.

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†Miss M. B. GURNEY.

## Officers, 1881 — 1882.

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### Vice-President.

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### Treasurer.

MRS. ANDREW POLLARD, South Boston.

### Corresponding Secretary.

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### Clerk.

MRS. D. E. J. DURANT, Jamaica Plain.

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#### *For One Year.*

\*MRS. E. SAFFORD, South Boston.  
Mrs. A. J. LOUD, Boston.  
Mrs. D. A. TAINTER, Watertown.  
Mrs. B. F. STURTEVANT, Jamaica Plain.

#### *For Two Years.*

Mrs. O. S. STEARNS, Newton Centre.  
Mrs. C. F. BYAM, Charlestown.  
Mrs. A. P. MASON, Chelsea.  
Mrs. G. S. HARWOOD, Newton.

#### *For Three Years.*

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Mrs. G. W. BOSWORTH, Newton Centre.  
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**Officers, 1882 — 1883.**

**President.**

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Mrs. WM. H. ALDEN, Portsmouth, N. H.  
Mrs. GUY C. NOBLE, St. Albans, Vt.  
Mrs. A. K. POTTER, Springfield.  
Mrs. MARIA T. RICHARDS, Providence, R. I.  
———, Conn.

**Clerk.**

Mrs. D. E. J. DURANT, Boston.

**Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.**

Mrs. ANDREW POLLARD, Boston.

**Auditor.**

Mr. GEORGE H. SPRINGER, Boston.

**Executive Board.**

*For One Year.*

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Mrs. D. A. TAINTER, Watertown.  
Mrs. L. B. HATCH, South Abington.  
Mrs. O. S. STEARNS, Newton Centre.

*For Two Years.*

\*Mrs. J. C. HARTSHORN, Providence, R. I.  
Mrs. CHARLES F. BYAM, Charlestown.  
Mrs. GEO. W. BOSWORTH, Newton Centre.  
\*Mrs. A. R. PORTER, Boston.

*For Three Years.*

\*Mrs. N. O. HART, Boston Highlands.  
Mrs. B. F. STURTEVANT, Jamaica Plain.  
\*Mrs. M. G. SARGENT, Brookline.  
Mrs. A. P. MASON, Chelsea.

## Officers, 1883 — 1884.

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### Vice-President.

Mrs. ANNA SARGENT HUNT, Augusta, Me.

### Clerk.

Mrs. C. E. DANIELS, Boston.

### Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

Mrs. ANDREW POLLARD, Boston.

### Auditor.

Mr. GEORGE H. SPRINGER, Boston.

### Executive Board.

#### *For One Year.*

Mrs. E. W. APPLETON, Providence, R. I.

Mrs. CHARLES F. BYAM, Charlestown,

Mrs. GEO. W. BOSWORTH, Cambridge.

\*Mrs. A. R. PORTER, Boston.

#### *For Two Years.*

\*Mrs. N. O. HART, Boston Highlands.

Mrs. B. F. STURTEVANT, Jamaica Plain.

\*Mrs. W. G. SARGENT, Brookline.

Mrs. A. P. MASON, Chelsea.

#### *For Three Years.*

Mrs. A. J. LOUD, Boston.

Mrs. L. B. HATCH, South Abington.

Mrs. D. E. J. DURANT, Boston.

Mrs. J. G. GOOCH, Old Cambridge.

### Vice-Presidents of States.

Maine, Mrs. ANNA SARGENT HUNT, Augusta.

New Hampshire, Mrs. J. N. CHASE, Exeter.

Vermont, Mrs. GUY C. NOBLE, St. Albans.

Massachusetts, Mrs. WM. A. BOWDLEAR, Roxbury.

Rhode Island, Mrs. MARIA T. RICHARDS, Providence.

Connecticut, —————.



**Officers, 1884 — 1885.**

**President.**

\*MRS. THOMAS NICKERSON, NEWTON CENTRE.

**Vice-President.**

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**Clerk.**

MRS. C. E. DANIELS, Boston.

**Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.**

MRS. ANDREW POLLARD, Boston.

**Auditor.**

MR. GEORGE H. SPRINGER, Boston.

**Executive Board.**

*For One Year.*

MRS. B. F. STURTEVANT, Jamaica Plain.

\*MRS. M. G. SARGENT, Brookline.

MRS. A. P. MASON, Chelsea.

MRS. WM. A. BOWDLEAR, Roxbury.

MRS. L. B. CRESSY, Brookline.

*For Two Years.*

MRS. A. J. LOUD, Boston.

MRS. L. B. HATCH, South Abington.

MRS. D. E. J. DURANT, Boston.

MRS. J. G. GOOCH, Cambridge.

MRS. G. S. HARWOOD, Newton.

*For Three Years.*

MRS. E. W. APPLETON, Providence, R. I.

MRS. C. F. BYAM, Charlestown.

MRS. G. W. BOSWORTH, Cambridge.

MRS. JAMES McWHINNIE, Cambridge.

MRS. DAVID RANDALL, Waltham.

**Vice-Presidents of States.**

Maine, MRS. ANNA SARGENT HUNT, Augusta.

New Hampshire, MRS. J. N. CHASE, Exeter.

Vermont, MRS. GUY C. NOBLE, St. Albans.

Massachusetts, \*MRS. N. O. HART, Roxbury.

Rhode Island, MRS. SAMUEL RICHARDS, Providence.

Connecticut, MRS. J. D. HERR, Norwich.

## **Officers, 1885 — 1886.**

### **President.**

\*MRS. THOMAS NICKERSON, NEWTON CENTRE.

### **Vice-President.**

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\*MRS. D. H. TAYLOR, Jamaica Plain.

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Mrs. A. P. MASON, Chelsea.

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Mrs. J. G. GOOCH, Cambridge.

Mrs. H. G. SAFFORD, Newton.

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Mrs. A. P. MASON, Chelsea.

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*"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."*

*Psalms 126: 6.*

"Reaper," I asked, "among the golden sheaves  
Toiling at noon, amid the falling leaves,  
What recompense hast thou for all thy toil?  
What tithe of all thy Master's wine and oil?  
Or dost thou coin thy brow's hot drops to gold?  
Or add to house and land, or flock and fold?"

The reaper paused from binding close the grain,  
And said, while shone his smile through labor's stain,  
"I do my Master's work, as He has taught,  
And work of love was never bought;  
He knoweth all of which my life hath need;  
His servants reap as they have sown the seed;  
With all my heart I bind my Master's grain;  
And love makes sweet my labor and my pain."

*—Selected.*





